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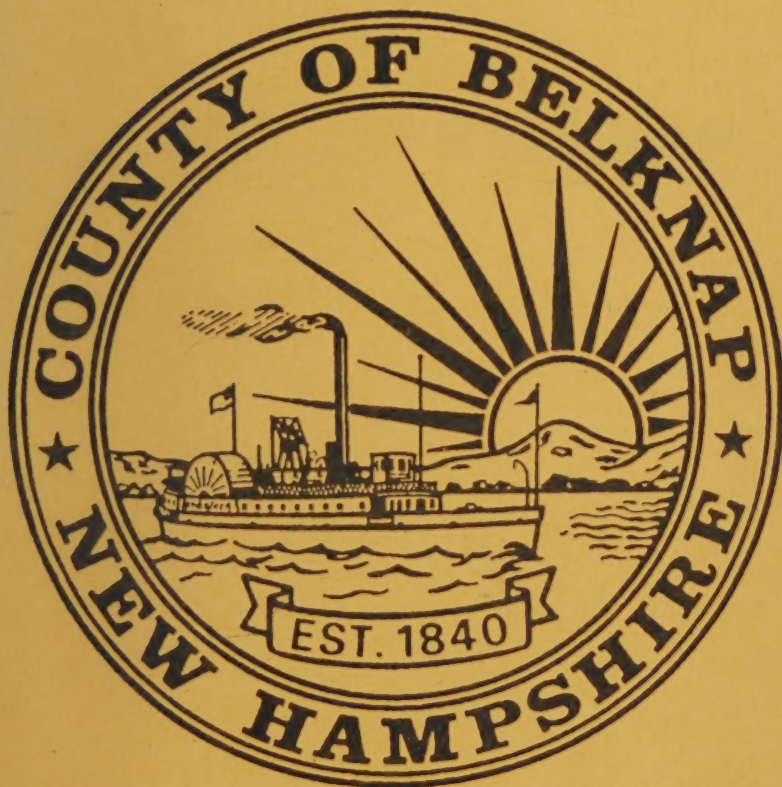
# Annual Report

of the

## COMMISSIONERS

of the

## COUNTY OF BELKNAP



For the Year Ending  
December 31, 1992



# **Annual Report**

of the

## **COMMISSIONERS**

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## **COUNTY OF BELKNAP**

**For the Year Ending  
December 31, 1992**



## INDEX

County Officers.....	4
Belknap County Convention .....	6
Report of the Commissioners.....	7
Minutes of the Delegation .....	9
Finance Director's Report .....	51
Report of the Registry of Deeds.....	58
Report of the County Nursing Home .....	60
Report of the Department of Corrections.....	62
Report of the County Attorney.....	64
Report of the Human Services Director.....	67
Report of the Sheriff's Department.....	70
Report of the Gunstock Recreation Area.....	73
Report of the Conservation District .....	74
Report of the Cooperative Extension .....	76
Report of the Economic Development Council.....	79
Report of the Lakes Region Mental Health Center (GENESIS) .....	81



## **1992 Slate of Belknap Officers**

### **Commissioners**

Norman C. Marsh, Chairman, Gilford  
Bradbury E. Sprague, Vice-Chairman, Meredith  
(resigned 12/31/92)  
Edwin I. Chertok, Clerk, Laconia  
Mark E. Thurston, Sanbornton  
(newly elected 1/1/93)

### **County Treasurer**

Robert E. Corbin, Belmont

### **County Attorney**

Edward J. Fitzgerald III, Laconia  
(resigned 12/16/92)  
Diana G. Bolander, Acting County Attorney  
(sworn in 12/16/92)  
Lauren J. Noether, County Attorney  
(sworn in 1/8/93)

### **Sheriff**

Stephen G. Hodges, Meredith

### **Clerk of Superior Court**

Dana W. Zucker, Gilford

### **Judge of Probate**

Christina M. O'Neill, Laconia

### **Register of Probate**

Estelle J. Dearborn, Laconia

### **Deputy Register of Probate**

Cheryl Nadeau, Laconia

### **Register of Deeds**

Rachel M. Normandin, Laconia

### **Deputy Register of Deeds**

Judith A. Livernois, Sanbornton

**Superintendent Department of Corrections**

Walter R. Newcomb, Centre Harbor

**Administrator of the Nursing Home**

Robert M. Chase, Laconia

**County Medical Referee**

Paul Appleton, M.D., Gilford

**County Finance Director**

Philip P. Daigneault, Laconia

**Human Services Administrator**

Carol N. Schonfeld, Concord

**Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds**

Peter Vangjel, Laconia

(retired 5/29/92)

D. William Jenkins, Thornton

(hired 7/13/92)

**County Chaplains**

Reverend Madelyn Klose

Reverend Nelson Boucher

Reverend Roger Bilodeau

**1992**  
**Belknap County Convention**  
**(Legislative Delegation)**

- District No. 1 Centre Harbor, New Hampton & Sanbornton**  
Steven Maviglio
- District No. 2 Tilton**  
William Joscelyn
- District No. 3 Centre Harbor, New Hampton, Sanbornton & Tilton**  
Thomas Salatiello
- District No. 4 Meredith**  
Carl Johnson  
Charles Vogler
- District No. 5 Belmont & Gilford**  
Gordon Bartlett  
Thomas Cain  
Richard Campbell  
Robert S. Hawkins
- District No. 6 Alton & Gilmanton**  
Arnold Shibley  
Alice Ziegra
- District No. 7 Barnstead**  
Paul Golden
- District No. 8 Laconia, Ward No. 4**  
Thomas Rice
- District No. 9 Laconia, Ward No. 1**  
Ralph Rosen
- District No. 10 Laconia, Wards 2 & 5**  
Harry Accornero
- District No. 11 Laconia, Ward No. 3**  
Robert Turner
- District No. 12 Laconia, Ward No. 6**  
Glen Dewhirst
- District No. 13 Laconia, Wards 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6**  
Robert Holbrook

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Robert S. Hawkins  
Robert H. Turner, Charles C. Vogler,  
Steven R. Maviglio, Richard H. Campbell, Jr.,  
Robert G. Holbrook, Thomas Rice, Jr.



## Report of the Belknap County Commissioners

The year started very sadly with the death of our longtime County Courthouse Maintenance Supervisor Peter Vanjel Peter Vanjel. Pete had served the county for sixteen years. Our county property at 64 Court Street was used as an example of how public buildings should be maintained and was a tribute to Pete's unselfish dedication to his job.

The Commissioners are pleased to report that the modified health plan adopted in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department, Nursing Home and all other non-unionized employees along with the Wellness Program helped to keep our health cost from escalating out of sight. It certainly demonstrates what can be accomplished when employees and management work together as a team. The Commissioners applaud the aforementioned employees for unselfishly thinking of the Belknap County Taxpayer.

The operational improvements at the nursing home instituted by our administrator, Robert Chase, brought further recognition to Belknap County for its outstanding caring facility as well as a substantial lowering of costs to our county taxpayers. We thank Mr. Chase for a job well done.

Our County Jail and House of Correction continue to be innovative by obtaining a federal education grant to teach woodworking and other subjects in an attempt to help our inmates to live productive lives when they return to the real world. We commend our superintendent of the Jail and House of Correction, Walt Newcomb, for his professional dedication in fulfilling the requirements of his responsible position.

We were pleased to make office space available for the newly created Belknap County Economic Development Council by vacating one of the commissioners' rooms. They also share the services of the commissioners' secretary. Their success will mean more jobs for Belknap County.

The Belknap County Taxpayers were obligated to pay \$963,560 in 1991 and \$793,036 in 1992 of the Gunstock Area debt. Without these costs the county taxes would have been substantially less than in 1990, which illustrates the business oriented management of the County Commissioners.

Please review the statistical data in the report which shows the healthy financial condition of this county. Again in 1992 the commissioners with the assistance of department administration followed prudent fiscal policies which resulted in a substantial year end surplus which will be used to lower the county tax burden in 1993.

During the last two months of 1992 retiring Commissioner "Cous" Brad Sprague was kept busy receiving accolades, testimonial dinners

and awards. We join the citizens of Belknap County in wishing Brad a happy retirement.

The Board wishes to thank the members of the Belknap County Delegation and its Executive Committee for their assistance during the year. The Board also wishes to thank Phil Daigneault, Carol N. Schonfeld, Rachel Normandin and Ed Fitzgerald as well as all the dedicated employees for a job well done.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman C. Marsh, *Chairman*

Bradbury E. Sprague, *Vice-Chairman*

Edwin I. Chertok, *Clerk*

## Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)

County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
February 12, 1992

### MINUTES OF MEETING

The meeting of the Wage Sub-Committee was held at the Belknap County Courthouse at 7:30 PM on 12 Feb 92. Present were Reps Hawkins, Turner, Vogler, Maviglio, and Campbell. Also present were Attorney Fitzgerald and Commissioners Chertok and Sprague. Absent were Reps Johnson & Shibley.

Commissioner Chertok reviewed the Commissioner's budget request for approximately 5% increases for the Financial Director, Human Services Director, Corrections Director, and Assistant Attorney. A "one-time" 12% increase was proposed for the Nursing Home Director because of "pre-hiring" agreements". Also, a "one-time" 10% increase was proposed for the Director of Nurses because 1) her salary was being reached by her subordinates and 2) she is filling the job of Director of Nurses plus "in-service" training supervisor.

Concern was expressed over parity between wage grade employees who have received 5+% wage increases over the last few years plus 2%/yr. step increases while elected and appointed department heads have been getting only 4%. Also, concern was expressed over any increase during economic hard times. Finally, the sub-committee was concerned about endorsing different percentage raises for different employees.

Health Insurance was discussed, but it was the consensus of those present that no change from the present 2 person BC/BS JY Plan should be made at this time for these salaried employees.

It was finally proposed to put the salaries for all department heads, etc., at last year's level and add a new line for salary adjustments to be distributed at the discretion of the Commissioners. On a motion by Rep Campbell, seconded by Rep Vogler, it was voted to make this salary adjustment figure 5% of the 1991 total salary amount for these six positions. This amounts to approximately \$11,310. *Passed 2-1.*

It was further agreed that the sub-committee would meet at the House chambers during the initial "special order" debate on 13 Feb to give the absent members of the sub-committee a chance to voice their views.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.



A subsequent meeting was held at the House Chambers on 13 Feb at approximately 2:00 PM to discuss this matter further. This meeting included Reps Vogler, Campbell, Johnson & Shibley. Following discussion, it was agreed to reduce the salary adjustment figure to 4% of the 1991 total salary amount for these six positions. This amounts to approximately \$9,048. Rep Maviglio arrived late for the meeting, but he concurred in that decision.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Charles C. Vogler  
*Chairman*  
*Wages Sub-committee*



## Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)

County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
February 29, 1992

### MINUTES OF MEETING

The meeting of the Belknap County Delegation took place at the Belknap County Courthouse. Present were Reps Accornero, Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Rice, Rosen, Shibley, Turner, Vogler, Zaharchuk and Ziegler. Absent was Rep Salatiello.

The work session on the budget was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Hawkins.

Rep Campbell noted that the budget did not contain "last year approved" values nor were the revenue estimates provided. (Revenue figures were provided during the meeting.)

The first topic discussed was the Belknap County Economic Development Council. After lengthy discussion, Rep Ziegler moved and Rep Golden seconded a motion to not fund this agency. On a roll call vote, Rep Accornero, Bartlett, Campbell, Maviglio, Rice, Rosen and Vogler voted "no". Rep Cain, Dewhirst, Golden, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Shibley, Turner, Zaharchuk and Ziegler voted "yes". *Motion passed 10-7.*

Rep Rice then presented the Sheriff's and Correction's budgets. The following changes in the Sheriff's budget were approved:

1-4140-0441 from \$15,600 to \$8,900  
1-4140-0442 from \$900 to \$700  
1-4140-0471 from \$1,000 to \$900  
1-4140-0540 from \$6,000 to \$5,000

The following changes in the Correction's budget were approved:

1-6100-0453 from \$223,389 to \$197,100  
1-6100-0721 from \$21,000 to \$18,900

The following changes in the Correction's budget were suggested but not approved:

1-6100-0550 from \$1,600 to \$1,500  
1-6100-0732 from \$2,700 to \$1,500

1-6100-0907 from \$10,500 to \$8,000

Rep Ziegra presented the Nursing Home budget. The following changes were approved:

2-5100-0441 from \$1,500 to \$800

2-5100-0429 from \$2,000 to \$1,600

The following proposed changes to the Nursing Home budget were not passed:

2-5100-0540 from \$2,000 to \$1,600

2-5110-0429 from \$2,000 to \$1,500

2-5110-0721 from \$61,656 to \$58,000

The Gunstock budget line was then discussed. Manager Vorel and Commissioner Normandin answered questions regarding Gunstock. It was agreed to leave the Gunstock budget lines unchanged.

Rep Golden next presented the Court House budgets. The Registrar of Deeds budget was approved with the following additions/changes:

1-4120-0905 from 0 to \$1,856 for a FAX

1-4120-0560 from \$1,850 to \$2,265

The County Attorney budget was approved with the following change:

1-4110-0514 from \$2,000 to \$3,000

Rep Vogler then presented the Wage Committee Report:

This committee recommended that the budget include salaries for Department Heads at last year's level (adjusted for a 53 week year). The report further recommended that a wage bonus line (1-4100-0595) be established at \$9,247 (or 4% of the aggregate of Department Head wages) for distribution by the County Commissioners to the Department Heads.

Following extensive discussion, Rep Hawkins moved, and Rep Campbell seconded a motion that: ( 1 ) the Director of Nurses and the Assistant Attorney be given 5% raises; and ( 2 ) that line 1-4100-0595 wage bonus line be established for distribution by the county

Commissioners to the four remaining Department Heads with an amount equal to 5% of their aggregate salaries. The motion was split. On a roll call vote part ( 1 ), Rep Accornero, Bartlett, Cain Golden, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Rice, Rosen, Shibley, Vogler and Ziegler voted "no". Rep Campbell and Hawkins voted "yes". Motion defeated 13-2. Part ( 2 ) of the motion was then withdrawn.

It was then moved by Rep Vogler, Rep Shibley second, to accept the committee's report on wages. *Passed.*

It was then moved by Rep Campbell, Rep Hawkins second, to accept the committee's report with a 5% raise. *Failed.*

It was then moved by Rep Golden, Rep Bartlett second, to increase the salary of the Registrar of Deeds to equal that of the Sheriff. *Failed.*

Rep Golden then resumed the Court House budget. The Human Services budget was then considered but no changes were made.

The Commissioner's Budget was then discussed. The following changes made:

1-4100-0595 from \$9,048 to \$9,247  
1-4100-0590 from \$5,000 to \$9,000  
1-4100-0540 from \$1,500 to \$1,000  
1-4100-0550 from \$1,000 to \$850  
1-4100-0584 from \$6,000 to \$5,400

The Maintenance Budget was considered and the following change made:

1-4160-0721 from \$18,500 to \$15,500

Rep Holbrook then presented the remainder of the Outside Agency budget lines. The following changes were made:

1-8310-0004 from \$44,424 to \$45,474  
1-8310-0006 from 0 to \$40,000  
1-8310-0002 from \$362,140 to \$353,417  
1-4070-0001 from \$178,568 to \$174,273

Finally, a motion to change the Contingency line (1-9900-0001) from \$25,000 to 0 failed.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:22 PM.

The next meeting will be Monday, 3 March at 7:30 PM at the County Courthouse for a public hearing on the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*



## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
March 2, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The public hearing on the 1992 budget was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Hawkins at the Belknap County Courthouse. All members were present.

Chairman Hawkins went through the budget page-by page and had the responsible sub-committee chairman discuss any changes made during the Saturday work session. Then, the public was invited to comment on the contents of that page.

John McCarthy, Tilton, stated he would like to see the Sheriff's budget split into civil and law enforcement sections. His comments were noted.

Jim Hughes, Meredith, questioned why some items in the Human Services budget exceeded last year's actual expenditures. In response, it was noted that the 1992 estimates were based upon known case loads, as well as past experience.

John McCarthy, Tilton, spoke opposing any increase in the wages of management personnel. He also spoke against the 5.5% wage raise contained in the current wage contract. He further presented a copy of PLRB appeal of the Sanborn Regional School Board to the Supreme Court, as evidence that wage contracts could be challenged. (atch)

Jim Dodge, Tilton, stated he was pleased with the new Gunstock management. He further requested that any revenue from timbering of Gunstock be used to reduce Town payments to the County for Gunstock support. Finally, he requested that support for Gunstock be treated as a Supplemental Budget and not become a regular line-item in the normal budget.

The Outside Agencies' budget received many public comments:

Jim Dodge, Tilton, recommended full restoration of the LRMH budget.

Jane Kilcoyne, Chairman of the BCEDC, urged restoration of the BCEDC budget. She stated \$35,000 would suffice since they could not start until 1 July. She listed many of the prominent Belknap County businessmen and leaders who support the BCEDC.

Mr. Carlyle of First NH Bank supported BCEDC and stated his bank would participate.

Greg Dickinson of the Village Bank expressed BCEDC support and the need for a conduit to the State for economic development funds. He offered \$5,000 on a matching basis to support the BCEDC.

Donald Sibson, Laconia Airport, urged support of the BCEDC. He compared how the Laconia Airport, formerly supported by public funds was now independent; and how the BCEDC could be expected to do likewise.

Dave Thurston, Laconia City Council, urged support for the BCEDC.

Russ Thibeault, Laconia, urged BCEDC support and offered \$5,000 in services on a matching basis. He commented that Belknap County currently has 10% unemployment and that could reach 15% by year end. He stated support of the BCEDC might prevent this from happening.

Bill Philpot expressed support and suggested matching public and private funds be a compromise so the BCEDC could go forward.

Ed Chertok, County Commissioner, urged support for the BCEDC.

Peter Russell, Meredith Town Manager, Supported the BCEDC. He stated the BCEDC would pay for itself in the reduction of town welfare costs.

Niel Young, Laconia City Council, urge BCEDC support for at least "seed money".

Another Laconia resident urged that the BCEDC money be used wisely.

Kent Locke, Laconia developer, stated the number one issue in the County was jobs. He, therefore, strongly supports the BCEDC.

David Smith from the CO-OP Extension Service, urged an increase in their approved budget by \$2,887 to enable pay raises and travel funds. Their employees have not had a raise in two years.

The Treasurer of the Soil Conservation Service urged their budget be approved at the level of \$47, 973. This would permit pay raises postponed for two years plus enable the needed increase in clerical support from 20 to 24 hrs/wk. Robert Harrington, Laconia, echoed his support.

Rep Vogler then gave a report of the Wage committee and described the wage increases proposed for elected officials, department heads and management, and union members.

John McCarthy, Tilton, urged the Delegation to challenge the existing 5.5% union contract raise.

Niel Young, Laconia City Council, urged level funding of County wages.

Finally, Phillip Daigneault, Financial Director, went over the summary of the budget which shows a 4% budget increase, but a -2.54% decrease in the amount to be raised by taxes.

There being no further public input, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Vogler  
*Clerk*  
*Belknap County Delegation*

## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246**

**March 16, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM at the County Courthouse by Chairman Hawkins. In attendance were Reps Accornero, Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Dewhirst, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Rice, Rosen, Turner, Vogler, Zaharchuk and Ziegler. Absent were Reps Golden, Maviglio, Salatiello and Shibley.

Chairman Hawkins announced that the meeting of the 23rd will include a public hearing on the Gunstock budget from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM followed by a regular meeting to act on the 1992 County budget.

The need to connect the Gunstock Area to the Winnepesaukee basin sewer interceptor was discussed. This project was originally in the overall Winnepesaukee basin project, but was delayed in favor of other projects by NH DES. Finally, federal funding ran out without the completion of this project. However, Gunstock is under DES and EPA mandate to connect by Dec 31, 1994.

Rep Rosen moved, and Rep Bartlett seconded a motion to support an amendment by Sen. Fraser to HB1376 which provides for 95% state funding of the project. On a roll call vote, Reps Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Dewhirst, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Rice, Rosen, Turner, Vogler and Ziegler voted "yes". Reps Accornero and Zaharchuk voted "no".

County Attorney Fitzgerald discussed the need for the replacement of the telephone system in his office. He has spent over \$1,400, so far, in trying unsuccessfully to repair the old system. Commissioner Marsh will look into the matter and provide recommendations to the Delegation for the meeting of 23 March.

Commissioner Marsh addressed the cost of Hepatitis B vaccinations at the Nursing Home. The cost will be about \$4,800. He will provide recommendations for action to the Delegation at the next meeting.

The next issue discussed was the Belknap County Economic Development Council (BCEDC) funding. Rep Bartlett stated we need to do "something". He introduced Greg Dickinson of the Village Bank who has raised over \$20,000 in private donations commitments to match a \$35,000 County commitment. The following discussion included



recommendations for changing the management structure of the BCEDC and the need for more definitive goals and objectives.

On a motion by Rep Bartlett, Rep Vogler seconded, it was moved to have the Delegation Chairman convene a sub-committee to look into the BCEDC issue and to present recommendations at the next meeting. *Passed.*

Chairman Hawkins announced those interested should meet at noon at the Capital cafeteria Wed, Thur and Fri to discuss the issue.

Chairman Hawkins announced he had appointed Reps Turner and Holbrook to act as liaison with the Weirs succession group.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM. The next meeting will be Mar 23rd at 7:30 PM at the County Courthouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*

## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
March 23, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 by Chairman Hawkins at the County Courthouse. In attendance were Reps Accornero, Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Rice, Rosen, Salatiello, Turner, Vogler, Zaharchuk and Ziegra. Absent was Rep Shibley.

Chairman Hawkins opened the public hearing on the Gunstock 1992-1993 budget. John Vorel, Gunstock Manager, described the \$4.1M budget. This budget is based upon maintaining a quality product, improving cost efficiencies, and seeking new revenue. Night skiing will be added this year. Full-time staff will be reduced from 27 to 22. Following this briefing, Mr. Vorel answered questions from the Delegation and then the general public.

The public hearing on the Gunstock budget was closed at 8:25PM.

Rep Rosen moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion to accept the Gunstock budget, as presented. On a roll call vote, Reps Bartlett, Campbell, Dewhirst, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Rice, Rosen, Turner, Vogler and Ziegler voted "yes". Reps Accornero, Cain, Golden, Holbrook, Johnson, Salatiello and Zaharchuk voted "no". *Passed 10-7.*

A motion by Rep Accornero, Rep Cain seconded, to reduce the Gunstock budget by \$100,000 and eliminating night skiing was ruled out of order by Chairman Hawkins, since the Delegation does not have line veto authority over the Gunstock budget.

Next, the funding of the Belknap County Economic Development Council was addressed:

Rep Bartlett moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion to authorize \$35,000 to the BCEDC on a dollar-for-dollar cash-only match basis. *Passed.*

Rep Bartlett moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion to require the BCEDC to submit quarterly reports the Belknap County Commissioners. Further, the BCEDC is to maintain two Representatives plus a County Commissioner on the Board at all times to qualify for matching funds. *Passed.*

Rep Bartlett moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion to authorize the County Commissioners to apply for and accept Community Development Block Grant Funds for the purpose of starting up the BCEDC. These funds, anticipated to be up to \$12,000, are to be in addition to the \$35,000 authorized above. *Passed.*

Rep Bartlett moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion that expressed the intent of the Delegation that the BCEDC would be publicly funded from the County only for 3-4 years. Following this period, the BCEDC would be a self-sustaining organization from private donations of grants. *Passed.*

Chairman Hawkins then went over the proposed budget, line by line:

Rep Rosen moved, and Rep Golden seconded, a motion to increase line 1-4120-0110, Registrar of Deeds Salary, to \$36,234. *Motion Failed.*

Rep Turner moved, and Rep Vogler seconded motions to increase line 1-8310-0004, Soil Conservation, to \$46,938; increase line 1-8310-0015, Economic Development Council to \$1.00; and line 1-8310-0003, Delegation Expense, to \$44,000. *Passed.*

Rep Campbell moved, and Rep Accornero seconded, a motion to delete line 1-9900-0001, Contingency, from the budget. On a roll call vote, Reps Accornero, Cain, Campbell, Golden, Johnson, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Salatiello, Zaharchuk and Ziegler voted "yes". Reps Bartlett, Dewhirst, Holbrook, Rice, Rosen, Turner, Vogler voted "no". *Motion passed 10-7.*

Rep Turner then moved, and Rep Bartlett seconded a motion to restore this line item with \$1.00. *Motion failed.*

Rep Turner moved, and Rep Vogler seconded, a motion to create a new budget line item in both income and expense sides of the ledger in the amount of \$12,000 for receipt and expenditure of any Community Development Block Grants for the BCEDC. *Passed.*

Rep Turner moved, and Rep Ziegra seconded, a motion to increase line item 2-5100-0290, Employee Physicals, to \$8,462 for Hepatitis shots. *Passed.*

Rep Turner moved, and Rep Campbell seconded a motion to adopt the 1992 Belknap County Budget, as amended this date, authorizing general fund expenditures in the amount of \$9,024,756 and Nursing Home expenditures in the amount of \$3,934,338, and the Belknap County Treasurer be hereby authorized to raise by taxation the amount of \$7,200,000. On a roll call vote, Reps Accornero, Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Holbrook, Joscelyn, Rice, Rosen, Turner, Vogler and Ziegra voted "yes". Reps Maviglio, Salatiello and Zaharchuk voted "no". *Motion passed 14-3.*

Rep Rosen then moved, and Rep Cain seconded, a motion that all monies appropriated for all line items of the 1992 Belknap County Budget shall be non-transferable without prior approval of the Executive Committee or the full Delegation in accordance with RSA 24:14, except that the Commissioners are authorized to transfer funds within each department from line item to line item in an amount not to exceed \$2,500 on any given instance. A report of such transfers shall be submitted to the Delegation monthly. *Passed.*

Rep Turner then moved, and Rep Bartlett seconded, to authorize the Clerk to make such non-monetary changes to the budget as may be necessary to submit the final budget to the Department of Revenue. *Passed.*

Rep Salatiello moved, and Rep Rosen seconded, a motion to indicate the support of the Delegation for SB322, the "911 Bill", currently before the Science, Technology and Energy Committee of the House. *Passed unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 PM.



The next meeting of the Delegation will be on Monday, April 6th at 7:30 PM at the County Courthouse for the purpose of a public hearing on a request from the Gunstock Commissioners to borrow in anticipation of revenue for the 1992-1993 season.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*

## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246**

**April 6, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Hawkins at the Belknap County Courthouse. In attendance were Reps Accornero, Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Dewhirst, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Rice, Rosen, Salatiello, Turner, Vogler and Ziegra. Absent were Reps Golden, Maviglio, Shibley and Zaharchuk.

John Vorel, Gunstock Manager, spoke for the Gunstock Commissioners requesting authority to borrow in anticipation of revenues in the amount of \$850,000. He stated the money will be repaid in Feb 93.

Questions from the delegation followed.

The meeting was then opened to questions from the public.

Ruth Messier from Alton questioned why the Gunstock budget included \$12,000 for the purchase of a used van. The answer was a potential savings of up to \$8,000.

Greg Goddard from Gilford stated that a 1989 survey indicated strong support for night skiing at Gunstock (as proposed in the 1992-3 budget).

The public hearing was closed.

Rep Turner moved, and Rep Ziegra seconded a motion, as follows:

Pursuant to the authority of Chapter 399, 1959 Laws as amended, to authorize the Treasurer of Belknap County to issue notes, on the concurrence of not less than four members of the Gunstock Area Commission, in the amount of \$850,000.00, on such terms and conditions as shall be negotiated by the Gunstock Area Commission. Said notes are issued in anticipation of revenues at the Gunstock Ski Area and shall have a maturity date of not later than April 1, 1993. All notes issued pursuant to this authority shall contain an express provision that all fees, fares and tolls as authorized by statute shall continue to be collected until such notes have matured. The Gunstock Area Commission shall

pay the principal and interest on said bonds out of revenues collected by Gunstock Area.

On a roll call vote, Reps Bartlett, Cain Campbell, Dewhirst Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Rice, Rosen, Turner, Vogler and Ziegra voted "yes". Reps Accornero and Salatiello voted "no". *Motion passed 13-2.*

Chairman Hawkins announced the next meeting will be at 7:30 PM on May 4th to set salaries for elected officials; and again on October 5th to select a new Gunstock Commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*

## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
May 11, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Chairman Hawkins. In attendance were Reps Bartlett, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Rice, Rosen, Salatiello, Shibley, Turner, Vogler, Zaharchuk and Ziegra. Absent were Reps Accornero and Cain.

Chairman Hawkins opened the public hearing on a block grant request for the Belknap County Economic Development Council (BCEDC).

Commissioner Marsh reported that Russ Thibeault of Applied Economic Research was assisting in the preparation of the grant request which must be submitted by 1 June. A representative from the Commissioner's Office attended a training seminar on preparing for the grant request. The initial grant request will be for \$12K.

Finance Director Daigneault amplified on Commissioner Marsh's remarks. He stated the grant application must show how the proposed project will help certain economically distressed segments of the community.

There being no further testimony, the hearing was closed.

Rep Turner moved, and Rep Bartlett seconded, a motion to authorize the County to apply for and accept block grant funds from the office of state planning for the Belknap County Economic Development Council. *Passed.*

Rep Johnson reported that interviews for the position of the Director of the BCEDC will start May 11th. Rep Vogler stated he will attend a meeting on 12 May to consider the grant request.

The next order of business was to establish wages for the elected officials for 1993-1994 biennium. Rep Vogler for the wage Committee proposed:

1. Continue the County Commissioners and Treasurer at 1991 levels.



2. Give 4%/year raises to the County Attorney and Sheriff.
3. Bring the salary of the Registrar of Deeds up to the level of the Sheriff over a two year period.

Discussion followed.

Rep Vogler moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion to make the County Attorney salary \$50,600 in 1993 and \$52,650 in 1994; the Sheriff salary \$37,700 in 1993 and \$39,200 in 1994; and the Registrar of Deeds salary \$35,950 in 1993 and \$39,200 in 1994. Benefits will remain 2 person BC/BS plus optional retirement. On a roll call vote Reps Bartlett, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Rice, Rosen, Shibley, Turner, Vogler and Ziegra voted "yes". Reps Joscelyn, Maviglio, Salatiello and Zaharchuk voted "no". *Motion passed 13-4.*

Commissioner Chertok then spoke advocating an increase in the Chairman of the County Commission's salary. Commissioner Marsh then spoke briefly stating that he was not asking for a raise.

Rep Joscelyn then moved, and Rep Maviglio seconded, a motion to not consider any changes to the Commissioner salaries. Rep Johnson, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Rice, Turner, Vogler, Zaharchuk and Ziegra voted "yes". Rep Bartlett, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Hawkins, Holbrook, Rosen and Shibley voted "no". *The motion lost on an 8-8 tie.*

Rep Maviglio then moved, and Rep Vogler seconded, a motion to adopt the Wage Sub-Committee recommendations of \$7,000/yr. salary of the Chairman of the Commissioners and \$6,500/yr. for the other Commissioners. On a roll call vote, Reps Bartlett, Campbell, Dewhirst, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Turner, Vogler, Zaharchuk and Ziegra voted "yes". Reps Golden, Rice, Rosen and Shibley voted "no". *Motion passed 11-4.*

Rep Bartlett moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion to set the Treasurer's salary at \$2,500/yr.. *Passed.*

Rep Ziegra announced she will host a party for the delegation (and spouses) at 4:00 PM on Sun 28 June. She will provide all the "fixings" and the members will share the cost of the lobster and/or steak.

Chairman Hawkins announced that the 95% financing for the Gunstock connection to the sewer interceptor was included in HB1376 which has passed both house and senate and awaits signature by the governor.

Rep Rosen informed the delegation about Gunstock's marketing efforts for corporate outings at Gunstock.

Following discussion, Rep Turner moved and Rep Golden seconded, a motion to increase delegation meeting pay to \$25/meeting effective December 1992 (when the new delegation first meets). On a roll call vote, Reps Joscelyn, Rosen, Shibley and Turner voted "yes". Reps Bartlett, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Holbrook, Johnson,

Maviglio, Rice, Vogler, Zaharchuk and Ziegra voted "no". *Motion failed 11-4.*

Chairman Hawkins announced the next regular meeting of the delegation will be on the 5th of October at 7:30 PM at the County Courthouse for the purpose of selecting a Gunstock Commissioner.

Chairman Hawkins appointed Rep Campbell alternate clerk since Rep Vogler will be absent Jul-Oct.

On a motion by Rep Turner, Rep Golden seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*

## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246**

**June 19, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

There will be a meeting of the Belknap County Delegation at 7:30 PM on Monday, July 6th at the Belknap County Courthouse for the purpose of holding a public hearing on a Community Development Plan being prepared in Conjunction with a Community Block Grant request by the Belknap County Economic Development Council.

In accordance with the direction provided by the County Delegation at the last meeting, the Belknap County Economic Development Council and the County Commissioners have applied for and have been tentatively granted a \$12,000 Community Block Grant by the State. That grant is for a feasibility study of extending sewer and water lines to the Airport and constructing a 40,000 sq. ft building. However, the grant has been made contingent upon:

1. The preparation of a brief Community Development Plan. (This plan is currently being prepared for the Belknap County Economic Development Council by Russ Thibeault.)
2. Receipt of a commitment by a business to move into the area should the results of the feasibility study funded by the Community Block Grant prove favorable. ( We do have such a tentative commitment from a Canadian firm.)
3. A public hearing an Delegation approval of a Community Development Plan. (This is scheduled for 6 July.)

As you may recall, it was originally believed that Community Block Grant funds were available for the specific purpose of setting up an economic development office. It was later found out that funds were only available for specific development projects. Therefore, the County Commissioners and the Belknap County Economic Development Council switched to a feasibility study of extending water/sewer to the Airport.

We regret the short notice for this meeting, and the scheduling so close to the holiday weekend. However, the County must submit an

approved development plan to the state by 12 July or lose the money. Please make every effort to attend since we must have a quorum.

Sincerely,

Charles C. Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*



## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
July 6, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The meeting of the Delegation was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Hawkins at the Belknap County Courthouse. In attendance were Reps Accornero, Bartlett, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Joscelyn, Rosen, Salatiello, Shibley, Turner, Vogler and Ziegra. Absent were Reps Cain, Maviglio, Rice, and Zaharchuk.

Chairman Hawkins thanked Rep Ziegra for hosting the excellent picnic dinner for the delegation at her home.

Rep Johnson, Chairman of Belknap County Economic Development Council (BCEDC), introduced Ray Pinard, Chairman of the Search Committee.

Ray Pinard, in turn, introduced the newly hired Executive Director of the BCEDC, Eliza Leadbeater.

Finance Director Daigneault then explained that the County Commissioners, in accordance with Delegation direction, had applied for a Block Grant for the BCEDC. The grant is for \$12,000 for a feasibility study of extending water to the Laconia Airport and constructing a 40,000 sq. ft. building to attract business. This grant has been approved by the Office of State Planning pending:

1. The submission of an "Economic Development Plan" approved by the County Delegation and--
2. Confirmation by a firm that they would consider moving to the site if the water and building were available.

Based upon those conditions, the County Commissioners had Russ Thibeault of Applied Economic Research prepare the attached two page "Belknap County Housing and Community Development Plan". In addition, they have obtained the required confirmation from a Canadian firm. Upon approval by the Delegation, the application will be re-submitted to the Office of State Planning and approval should be automatic.

Discussion of the plan by the Delegation followed.

Chairman Hawkins then opened the floor to the public for input. Speaking were John McCarthy, Tilton Selectman; Tom Tardiff, former Laconia Mayor; Greg Dickinson, Village Bank; Jim Dodge, Tilton Selectman; Kent Locke; Commissioner Chertok, and others.

The public hearing on the plan was closed.

Rep Turner moved and Rep Bartlett seconded a motion to accept the "Belknap County Housing and Community Development Plan" as submitted. On a roll call vote Reps Bartlett, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Holbrook, Johnson, Rosen, Shibley, Turner, Vogler and Ziegler voted "yes". Reps Accornero, Joscelyn and Salatiello voted "no". *Motion passed 11-3.*

Chairman Hawkins appointed Reps Salatiello, Rosen, Dewhirst, Shibley and Joscelyn to a Housing Study Committee for the County.

Commissioner Marsh reported medical expenses for the Jail are high and will probably require transfers later in the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

The next meeting of the Delegation will be on Monday, October 5th at 7:30 PM to interview and select a Gunstock Commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*

Atch: "Belknap County Housing and Community Development Plan"

## **Belknap County Housing and Community Development Plan**

Belknap County's principal housing and community development needs are identified in the following paragraphs.

### **Sustainable Economic Development**

During the 1980's, Belknap County experienced a sharp increase in employment, population and housing construction activity. By the late 1980's, this boom had subsided and the county found itself with high levels of unemployment (Belknap County was the first county in the state to experience double digit unemployment), high vacancy rate in both owner and rental housing (most rental complexes are experiencing a 20% vacancy rate), an out-migration of residents and declining income.

This economic decline has had a substantial effect on virtually all aspects of the county. Property values have been declining, reducing the tax base available for the county's communities to support needed public services. The decline in income and population has exacted a sizable toll on the county's retailers, especially those in its downtown locations. The economic decline has significantly increased welfare rolls at both the county and community levels.

### **Adequate Housing**

Belknap County needs an adequate supply of decent, safe and sanitary housing for the county's low and moderate income residents. Communities in Belknap County do provide a substantial amount of publicly assisted housing. Nonetheless, the current economic decline has greatly increased housing needs among low and moderate income and elderly households, despite lower rent levels and lower housing prices. Rent levels and prices of low-end single family homes have not dropped to the point where they are available to all the county's lower income residents.

### **Adequate Public Facilities**

A third need is for adequate public facilities to serve the needs of the county's residents and visitors.

### **Community Development Objectives**

The following represent the principal Belknap County housing and community development objectives:

*Objective 1.* Encourage and support the development of a balanced, diversified and healthy economy for the county.

*Objective 2.* Provide a safe and convenient circulation pattern within Belknap County

*Objective 3.* Enhance the appearance of Belknap County through the provision of attractive and well planned public recreation areas.

*Objective 4.* Encourage safe, adequate and convenient housing for all age and income levels within Belknap County.

*Objective 5.* Promote the health and safety of the county's residents and visitors.

*Objective 6.* Provide a balanced tax base with a mixture of residential and non-residential uses throughout the county.

It is Belknap County's policy to minimize involuntary displacement of households from their neighborhoods.

Belknap County as a governmental unit recognizes that its principal role in achieving these objectives involves the coordination of state, local and federal resources to assist its local communities. Its responsibilities do not supersede those of its constituent municipalities, but are supplemental to the needs and desires of its local communities.



## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246**

**October 5, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The meeting of the Delegation was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Hawkins at the Belknap County Courthouse. In attendance were Reps Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Rice, Rosen, Turner, Vogler and Ziegra. Absent were Reps Accornero, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Salatiello, Shibley, and Zaharchuk.

Rep Johnson, Chairman of the Belknap County Economic Development Council (BCEDC), gave a brief summary of BCEDC activities.

A discussion was then held on a request from the Gunstock Commissioners for recommendations on a ski pass policy for the County Delegation. Rep Vogler moved, and Rep Johnson seconded a motion recommending that Gunstock provide no free or discounted ski passes to Belknap County Representatives. *Passed.*

Finance Director Daigneault then presented a letter requesting authority for four transfers between accounts (see Ltr, 2 Oct 92). Rep Holbrook moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion to approve the proposed transfers. *Passed.*

The Delegation then interviewed two potential candidates for the position of Gunstock Commissioner. It was noted that candidates from Laconia were excluded this time because Laconia already has two citizens on this Commission. Interviewed were Warren Lake from Sanbornton and "Woody" Fogg who is currently a Gunstock Commissioner. "Woody" Fogg was subsequently selected by written ballot and Rep Johnson moved, and Rep Rosen seconded, a motion to have the Clerk cast one ballot for Mr. Fogg. This motion was unanimously passed and the Clerk cast the vote making Fogg the new Gunstock Commissioner selectee.

Chairman Hawkins then led a free-wheeling discussion on how the Delegation could/should cooperate in developing legislation of general benefit to Belknap County.

Chairman Hawkins announced that the next meeting of the Delegation will be on Monday, Dec 7th at 7:30 PM at the County Courthouse. At this meeting the new County Delegation will organize.

Rep Holbrook moved, and Rep Turner seconded, a motion commending Rep Vogler for his performance as Clerk for the past four years. *Passed.*

Rep Holbrook then moved, and Rep Ziegra seconded, a motion to adjourn at 8:39 PM. *Passed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*

Atch: Finance Director Ltr, dated Oct 2, 1992, Subject:  
Budget Transfers.

**Office of the  
County Commissioners  
Laconia, New Hampshire 03246**

**October 2, 1992**

TO: County Commissioners  
FROM: Finance Director  
SUBJECT: Budget Transfers

	FROM	TO	AMOUNT
(1)	4100-0320	4100-0590	\$ 2,000.00
(2)	4160-0130	4160-0429	\$ 2,500.00
(3)	4160-0232	4160-0150	\$ 2,073.00
(4)	6100-0220	6100-0451	\$ 7,500.00
		Total	\$14,073.00

- ( 1 ) Subsequent to adoption of the budget a new three year contract was negotiated for audit fees - as a result the audit for General & Nursing Funds will total \$11,200.00.
- ( 2 ) Due to the need for a number of building repairs and maintenance the amount budgeted was considerably less than needed.
- ( 3 ) Due to an error in budgeting, insufficient funds were budgeted for general salaries in the maintenance department.
- ( 4 ) The delegation was apprised of the increasing cost of medical care at the Jail - it is apparent that this account is underfunded while the retirement account will realize a surplus.

The above transfers are submitted for your consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Philip P. Daigneault

## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
November 23, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Hawkins. In attendance were Reps Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Dewhirst, Golden, Hawkins, Holbrook, Johnson, Rice, Rosen, Salatiello, Turner, Vogler and Ziegra. Also in attendance were Representatives-elect Lawton, Hauck and Smith. Absent were Reps Accornero, Joscelyn, Maviglio, Shibley, and Zaharchuk.

Each of the sub-committee chairmen describes the duties and functions of their sub-committee for the benefit of the new members.

The new delegation members were asked to provide the new clerk information including their SSN, mailing address, telephone number, and mileage to the County Courthouse and to Gunstock.

Chairman Hawkins announced that the Delegation will elect new officers at the 9 Dec meeting.

Issues of concern to the Delegation were discussed.

Rep Ziegra discussed the improvement of Rte 11 between W. Alton & Gilford. This is in the highway for 1998.

Rep Bartlett discussed the upgrading of Rte 106. \$10M was appropriated for this in the last biennium. The majority of the money may be used to buy ROW along this route.

Rep Rosen discussed the Rte 3/11 route S. of Laconia. Reps Rosen & Whittemore are on a committee studying this issue. However, lack of consensus may, once again, stall progress.

Rep Johnson discussed upgrading the parade Rd to Center Harbor improvements currently funded.

Rep Rosen & Turner discussed the need for Laconia representatives to attend City Council meetings.



Chairman Hawkins reviewed the authority/responsibility of the Delegation vs the County and Gunstock. Rep Campbell is preparing extracts of the current statutes controlling County and Gunstock for each delegation member.

At 8:48 PM Rep Turner moved and Rep Golden seconded a motion to adjourn. *Passed.*

The next meeting will be on Wed 9 Dec at 7:30 PM. A second meeting will be held on Mon 14 Dec at 7:30 PM. All meeting will be at the County Courthouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Vogler

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*

## **Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)**

**County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
December 9, 1992**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The meeting of the Delegation was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Hawkins at the Belknap County Courthouse, with all Delegation Members present.

First order of business was from County Treasurer Robert Corbin, who requested \$7.5 million dollars for the county. It was motioned by Rep Turner, seconded by Rep Rice to allow the County Treasurer to proceed with his request and to precede the election of officers. It was voted in favor. Rep Holbrook asked of last year's amount, which was \$7.2 million and Rep Campbell if it was the total general fund. County Fiscal Agent Philip Daigneault said the amount would be borrowed in two amounts. Rep Salatiello raised the question of the election first, but due to time restraints, it was voted to let Mr. Corbin continue.

Chairman Hawkins told the Delegation that the book on Laws Relating to Counties was compiled by Rep Campbell, and was thanked by the Chair.

It was at this time that nominations for Chairman were accepted--- Rep Holbrook motioned and seconded by Rep Campbell the nomination of Rep Robert Turner for Chairman. Rep Cain motioned and Rep Zieggra seconded the nomination of Rep Gordon Bartlett for Chairman. Rep Holbrook motioned and Rep Golden seconded that nominations be closed. The Reps who seconded the nominations acted as ballot dispersers and counters. After the tally, it was Rep Bartlett at 11 votes and Rep Turner at 7 votes. Rep Turner motioned and Rep Rice seconded that the vote be unanimous, it was so voted.

Rep Bartlett took his seat as Chairman and proceeded with the rest of the Delegation business. Rep Salatiello motioned and Rep Smith seconded the nomination of Rep Alice Zieggra for vice-chairwoman. With no further nominations, the clerk was requested to cast one ballot for Rep Zieggra, after Rep Cain motioned and Rep Rosen seconded that nominations be closed. Rep Zieggra requested that the delegation thank Rep Hawkins for his tenure as chairman with a round of applause.

Nominations for clerk were opened with Rep Johnson motioning and Rep Cain seconding the nomination of Rep David Lawton for clerk. Motion to close nominations was made by Rep Zieggra and seconded by

Rep Rice after no further nominations. The clerk was directed to cast one ballot for Rep Lawton for clerk.

The appointment of a delegation member to the Economic Development Council to fill the place of former Rep Charles Vogler was heard. Rep Turner, seconded by Rep Holbrook, nominated Rep Hawkins. A vote was taken, and it was in the affirmative.

The public hearing of the County Budget was heard, but Rep Campbell said that an Executive Council must be formed. Rep Cain, seconded by Rep Campbell, motioned it be tabled until the 14 Dec meeting. The vote was unanimous. Rep Rice requested that a tape recorder be obtained for the new clerk, to better record the meetings, and also for future reference. This was seconded by Rep Cain. Rep Hawkins requested a price limit of this expense. The Chair set the price at \$75. Rep Laflam suggested the clerk look into prices. Rep Lawton said he will check by Monday, the next scheduled meeting. Rep Salatiello suggested we have agendas before our meetings. The Chair agreed and in the future, the Delegation shall have agendas before their meetings.

The Budget for 1993, was now presented by County Commissioner Norman Marsh. He proceeded department by department. Rep Holbrook asked the County Attorney Edward Fitzgerald about the victim/witness program. The County Attorney responded that it was a two year program, and that it expires in June of 1993. It is funded by the state. Rep Hawkins added that it was funded by the state as long as we funded it. The County Attorney briefly discussed several items in his budget, including the DCYS grant program which is administered through his office. Further information will be forthcoming in early January for pre-approval, and this is totally funded by a state grant.

The Registrar of Deeds, Mrs. Rachel Normandin, discussed her requests, mainly centering on the scanning station request. Presently, the one station has processed 57,000 pages in 8 months. There is a 5 year plan to hopefully stick to, and a second station would get the office to catch up on back deeds. Rep Rice asked if it would need extra labor in recording. Registrar Normandin stated that it would be manned in winter by the present staff, when the office is slower, and in the summer, the vocational college would offer internships for para-legal credits during 14 weeks toward credit hours. Rep Rice asked if there will be a continued need for the second station, which the Registrar responded that 1 station will suffice and this will raise revenue in the long run.

County Commissioner Marsh brought up the topic of a copier machine (2-sided) which annually brings in \$60,000, is having problems, and action should be taken soon as to not lose this additional income.

Sheriff Steven Hodges went over his budget and discussed the need to upgrade the MT Belknap station. He would like to replace both



consoles at the mountain and the Sheriff's Office, so they would be able to interact. The whole increase in his budget is for capitol improvements. Rep Rice asked about how the enhanced 911 would affect this system. The Sheriff replied that there would not be a great change. Vice-Chairwoman Ziegler asked if there will be a lot of upkeep on this system, to which the Sheriff replied that he expects to get 20 years service out of it, by judging from the longevity of the current systems.

Human Services Director Carol Schonfeld discussed her budget, more precisely the part-time help. Vice Chairwoman Ziegler said that it was worth while having the part-time help, because in the long run it was saving the County money on checking the incoming bills.

County Jail Superintendent Walter Newcomb discussed his budget.

Rep Hawkins asked about the \$10,000 increase in the Economic Development Council. Commissioner Marsh stated that the Commissioners were convinced that the money would be wisely spent. Rep Hawkins asked who was in charge over at the Economic Development Council, the Council or Mrs. Leadbeater, and also if it was still a dollar per dollar match of public and private money. Commissioner Marsh said that the Council's time was better spent on the job in the county. Rep Johnson said that this will be before the Outside Agencies Committee, and that the Executive Director's time has been spent on a lot of secretarial duties, and also that monies were difficult to raise by the Board of Directors. He asked if it might be possible to ask for additional secretarial workers. Rep Hawkins said that a hearing will be held on this during the meeting of the Outside Agencies Committee.

Commissioner Marsh stated that there were no raises in employee salaries in the budget. They are under negotiations and will be discussed in Executive sessions at a later date. The Commissioner then proceeded to discuss the County Nursing Home budget. County Nursing Home Administrator Robert Chase went into detail on his budget requests. He stated that they currently put 1-2% of the investment into capital improvement, while in private nursing homes, it is more along the lines of 13-14%. Vice Chairwoman Ziegler asked about the machinery at the Home, if it would be possible to get used items. Administrator Chase said no, it would be wiser to buy new, but they will continue to patch where needed.

Commissioner Marsh concluded and discussion was opened to the gallery.

James Dodge of Tilton asked about the Economic Development Council, if there will be a written report on accomplishments and finances, and also what would be the time frame for this. Rep Johnson responded that there will be a report and it will hopefully be out before January. Rep Hawkins said that there will be a hearing time at the



Outside Agencies Committee and that if Mr. Dodge were interested, he should attend. Mr. Dodge went on to chastise the Commissioner's budget, more precisely the travel expenses on a trip to Chicago for a seminar. He said it may be better if the Commissioners would visit area towns instead, they may learn more than in Chicago. Commissioner Marsh rebutted that he had no intention of going to Chicago, and that his door is always open to everyone.

Mr. John Thomas of Belmont said that there should be dialogue between the County Economic Council and that of the area town economic councils.

Mr. Richard Defosses of Laconia asked why certain programs were not funded by the County Commissioners. Commissioner Marsh stated that they were not endorsed by the Commission. Ms. Schonfeld added more reason to Commissioner Marsh's response.

Mr. John McCarthy of Tilton asked when the next public hearing on the budget will be held, and he was answered, in March.

Rep Laflam said that he should have our hearing before area towns' hearings on their own budgets.

Mr. Jim Hershey of Laconia stated that the County budget was reasonable, but medical insurance for county employees has skyrocketed, and also that the county has provided a generous plan. Rep Hawkins said that the County Commissioners have bent over backwards to keep the insurance down with the help of the county employees. Commissioner Marsh discussed the health insurance contracts, Philip Daigneault elaborated on the issue, and Rep Rosen discussed the insurance.

Mr. James Dodge of Tilton talked about Gunstock Area and the funding of it.

Public discussion was closed, and requests for transfers were read by Commissioner Marsh. Rep Hawkins asked about the Medical Referee. Mr. Daigneault said that interest was sent to referee since there is no interdepartmental budget to work on. Rep Holbrook, seconded by Rep Hawkins, moved that these transfers be done. *Vote was unanimous.*

Rep Cain asked for recess, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Ziegler, a recess was called at 9:02 PM.

The meeting was called to order from recess at 9:15 PM. There were a couple of house cleaning measures to come up. Rep Hawkins, seconded by Rep Turner, moved the issue of the tape recorder. *It was passed.* The vote for Vice Chair was held again, as a group, and all were in favor of Rep Ziegler.

County Attorney Edward Fitzgerald III was recognized by the Chair. He wished to thank the Delegation for their help and support over the years, and discussed several topics coming up. He said that Diana

Bolander will be sworn in as acting County Attorney until a replacement is appointed to fill the unexpired term of County Attorney.

John Vorel, General Manager of Gunstock, presented a program. Mr. David Buckman gave a slide presentation on the history of Gunstock, after which Mr. Vorel gave a talk on all events taking place at Gunstock and also presented the Delegation with documents that will be discussed on the Dec 14, 1992, meeting of the County Delegation. He went into detail on the refinancing of the Gunstock bonds, that they will be accepting proposals and will appear at a later date with all the information. He also presented the Delegation with a 5-year plan. Rep Rice asked if the dollar projection for the future were in 1992 dollars, to which Mr. Vorel said he was right, no inflation was added. Rep Holbrook asked if the bonds were callable, and Mr. Vorel said no, but proposals were different than before, so as to restructure the bonds by borrowing new bonds for three years at lower rates. This would theoretically save \$200,000.

The Chairman asked that the cards for mileage and committee requests from the Delegation members be passed forward. It was stated that currently, the members receive \$15 per meeting. Acting Clerk Rep Dewhirst stated that it should remain the same. Rep Johnson, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Ziegra, motioned that it remain at \$15. *It was so voted.* Rep Turner, seconded by Rep Rice, motioned that the Clerk's pay be the same at \$30. *It was so voted.*

Mileage amount was at 23¢. It was motioned by Rep Hawkins, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Ziegra, that mileage be up to 28¢ a mile, in accordance with IRS standards. It was voted favorably.

Chairman Bartlett stated that the next meeting of the Belknap County Delegation will be held at 7:30 PM on Monday, December 14, 1992, at the Belknap County Court House.

Rep Salatiello, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Ziegra, moved that the meeting be now closed. It was voted unanimous. Work closed at 10:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Glenn E. Dewhirst  
*Acting Clerk*  
*Belknap County Delegation*

## Belknap County Convention (Legislative Delegation)

County Courthouse, Laconia, NH 03246  
December 14, 1992

### MINUTES OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Bartlett. In attendance were Reps Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Golden, Hauck, Holbrook, Laflam, Lawton, Rice, Rosen, Salatiello, Smith, Turner and Ziegra. Absent were Reps Dewhirst, Hawkins, Johnson and Young.

Chairman Bartlett issued sub-committee assignments to the Delegation members.

Chairman Bartlett recognized County Attorney Fitzgerald who requested that the Delegates enter executive session for the purpose of discussing County personnel issues.

At 7:35 PM Rep Cain moved, and Rep Holbrook seconded, a motion to go into executive session to discuss the personnel matters which Attorney Fitzgerald brought before the Delegation.

Reps Bartlett, Cain, Golden, Hauck, Holbrook, Laflam, Lawton, Rice, Rosen, Salatiello, Smith, Turner and Ziegra voted "yes". Rep Campbell voted "no". *Motion passed 13-1.*

At 7:57 PM Rep Ziegra moved and Rep Laflam seconded a motion to come out of executive session. The roll call vote was *unanimous 14-0.*

Commissioner Norman Marsh made a modification to the budget which he had presented at the last meeting.

Acct. # 1-4120-0333 / Copier Maint. Exp. was increased from \$3,000 to \$4,200. The increase was from the cost to rent a copier instead of purchasing one outright.

A verbal consensus of the Delegation affirmed for Comm. Marsh that the copier rental is the preferable alternative to buying new equipment at this time.

Rep Lawton addressed the motion passed in the last meeting which requested him to obtain cost data on a cassette recorder to assist him as Clerk in keeping the minutes of the meetings.

Rep Turner moved and Rep Ziegra seconded a motion to suspend plans to purchase a cassette recorder at this time. *Passed.*

Gunstock General Manager John Vorel addressed the Delegation in reference to the lease agreement between Belknap County through



Gunstock (lessor) and Contel Cellular, Inc. (Lessee). Mr. Vorel explained that he was seeking support and approval from the Delegation of the contract which he presented at the last delegation meeting.

Rep Hauck inquired about the FCC approvals which would be required for the Contel tower project atop Gunstock. Mr. Vorel referred to Atty. Brad Westgate (representing Contel) who agreed that the FCC had approved the project.

Rep Turner inquired regarding the use of the Contel tower by the Sheriff's dispatch system. Contel has been contacted by the Sheriff's Dept. and is receptive to the idea with some reservations.

Rep Rice questioned ownership & agreement regarding the power line connecting tower to off-mountain power source. Vorel: Shared Gunstock / Airport line; Airport will receive 10% of electrical costs each quarter; Contel has plans to add their own power line some time in the future.

Rep Campbell questioned size of area to be utilized by Contel. Mr. Vorel: less than 1/2 acre.

Rep Salatiello asked why site work had been started without approval of the Delegation. Vorel: "Site" work not begun yet; Contel had only made improvements to roadway access to the mountain-top site, which they used to get heavy testing equipment transported to the actual site.

Rep Holbrook asked if other uses by the County had been addressed - (other Dept.'s for communication purposes). Brad Westgate, attorney representing Contel, explained that the Gilford Planning Board controls the other applications this tower can be used for on a case by case basis.

Jim Cauld, Installation Supervisor for Contel, explained that buying into cellular phone system isn't buying use of this one particular tower. Further, that there is a



municipality rate available to Departments of the County wishing to utilize the tower for compatible communications.

Van Robard of Laconia raised her concerns that the Delegation was acting hastily on this contract and that the implications had not been fully explored. She emphasized that Contel would be leasing the scenic 1/2 acre lot atop Gunstock Mountain for as little as \$416/month.

Rep Salatiello stated that he was comfortable with the content of the contract but would be interested in another review. Mr. Vorel responded that local Atty Peter Millham has reviewed and approved this contract, as well as Atty Brad Westgate.

Van Robard reiterated her concerns expressed previously and urged the Delegation to review the contract more carefully at a later date.

Rep Rosen stated that the contract has been discussed for a long period of time and that a large number of people have expressed their opinions on the contract, urging action by the Delegation.

Mr. Vorel made a final appeal to the Delegation, stating that many people had worked long and hard on this contract and supported Contel's endeavor in their business venture.

Rep Turner moved and Rep Rosen seconded that the Delegation support the contract as presented between Gunstock and Contel, Inc. On a roll call vote Reps Bartlett, Cain, Campbell, Golden, Hauck, Holbrook, Laflam, Lawton, Rice, Rosen, Salatiello, Smith, Turner and Ziegler voted "yes". *Motion passed 14-0.*

Chairman Bartlett opened the meeting to questions of John Vorel regarding the Gunstock 5-year plan.

Rep Campbell noted that Mr. Vorel's projections are as good as anyone else's and was satisfied with the plan.

Mr. Vorel discussed Gunstock's progress for the 92-93 ski season, and the outlook for the year ahead.

Rep Laflam discussed the positive aspects of Gunstock's growth plans which have been implemented in recent years.

Chairman Bartlett, hearing no more comments, closed discussion of the Gunstock 5-year plan.

The next tentatively scheduled meeting will be on January 25 at 7:30 PM at the County Courthouse. Chairman Bartlett requested that the sub-committee chairs submit a committee report at the meeting.

On a motion by Rep Salatiello seconded by Rep Ziegra the meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David M. Lawton

*Clerk*

*Belknap County Delegation*

# **BELKNAP COUNTY**

## **Audit Report**

**Year 1992**





## **Report of Finance Director**

To the honorable Belknap County Commissioners:

As we look back upon yet another year of belt tightening, the forecast for recovery in our economy is showing some positive signs. There does appear to be a light at the end of the tunnel!

The County's administrators have, again, used restraint in spending as is evidenced by a healthy surplus that will be used to help defray taxes for the calendar year 1993.

Although the budgets for the ensuing year reflect a 154% increase in capital spending, the overall budget is being held to a 1.6% increase. The increase in capital items is the result of holding the line during our sluggish economy and the old phrase of "pay me now, or pay me later", appears to be holding true as our infrastructure is in need of an infusion of capital.

This past year was one of the busiest for the Finance Office. In addition to accounting for a \$12,500,000.00 budget, we processed invoices and purchase orders for same, we processed payroll for 250 personnel, borrowed 4.5 million and 2.7 million dollars respectively and invested and tracked those funds to insure the best possible return for the County. Ancillary responsibilities increased as our office was instrumental in initiating a wellness program to help hold down the ever-increasing cost of healthcare insurance. A committee was formed among employee groups which was instrumental in aiding the New Hampshire Municipal Association with a health fare and getting employees more involved in being responsible for their health care. Bids for property and casualty insurance have been sought and will be available March 1st.

The unaudited financial statements and budgets are representative of the activities of 1992 and projected 1993 revenues and expenditures.

Once again, we thank the Commissioners for the opportunity to serve the citizenry of Belknap County and for their confidence in our ability to support their efforts.

Sincerely,

Philip P. Daigneault  
*Finance Director*

# COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups  
December 31, 1992

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Governmental General</u>	<u>Fund Special</u> (Unaudited)	<u>Types Enterprises</u>
Cash in banks	\$1,118,051	\$16,359	\$858,367
Receivables - Trade	256,146		267,420
Due from other funds	108,591		-108,591
Inventories			37,936
Prepaid expenses			93,893
Restricted Assets	16,359		
Land and improvements - net			1,705,030
Roads, etc. - net			369,401
Buildings and improvements - net			3,018,646
Machines and equipment - net			5,822,564
Construction in progress			48,895
Amount to be provided for			
General long-term debt			
Total Assets	<u>\$1,499,147</u>	<u>\$16,359</u>	<u>\$12,113,561</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$557,856		\$685,609
Accrued liabilities	107,353		
Due to other funds			
Accrued expense			477,297
Deferred revenues	27,687		55,500
Pay from restricted assets —	16,359		
Short-term notes pay			850,000
Compensated absences			
Obligation bonds, etc.			9,951,327
Total Liabilities	<u>709,255</u>	<u></u>	<u>12,019,733</u>
Fund Equity:			
Fixed Assets Invest			
Invest in enterprise fund			604,838
Contributed capital			1,827,959
Retained earnings			-2,393,307
Fund balances:			
Designated			
Undesignated	789,892		54,338
Unreserved		16,359	
Total Fund Equity	<u>789,892</u>	<u>16,359</u>	<u>93,828</u>
Total Liab & Equity	<u>\$1,499,147</u>	<u>\$16,359</u>	<u>\$12,113,561</u>

<u>Account</u> <u>Fixed Assets</u>	<u>Groups</u> <u>Long - Term</u> <u>Debt</u>	<u>Totals</u>	
		<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u> (Audited)
		\$1,992,777	\$1,364,097
		523,566	368,460
		0	13,855
		37,936	50,330
		93,893	178,925
		16,359	55,222
\$144,829		1,849,859	1,829,227
		369,401	393,813
3,976,527		6,995,173	7,219,826
207,128		6,029,692	6,563,727
		48,895	37,215
	<u>2,895,576</u>	<u>2,895,576</u>	<u>3,520,682</u>
<u>\$4,328,484</u>	<u>\$2,895,576</u>	<u>\$20,853,127</u>	<u>\$21,595,379</u>
		\$1,243,465	\$712,622
		107,353	231,729
		0	13,855
		477,297	337,269
		83,187	70,023
		16,359	55,222
		850,000	1,615,000
	\$199,576	199,576	624,682
	<u>2,696,000</u>	<u>12,647,327</u>	<u>12,318,753</u>
	<u>2,895,576</u>	<u>15,624,564</u>	<u>15,979,155</u>
\$4,328,484		4,328,484	4,538,271
		604,838	269,838
		1,827,959	1,891,821
		-2,393,307	-1,727,857
		0	9,409
		844,230	624,340
		16,359	10,402
<u>4,328,484</u>		<u>5,228,563</u>	<u>5,616,224</u>
<u>\$4,328,484</u>	<u>\$2,895,576</u>	<u>\$20,853,127</u>	<u>\$21,595,379</u>

COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Schedule of Changes in General Fixed Assets  
For the Year Ended December 31, 1992

Department	Balance January 1, <u>1992</u>	Current <u>Activity</u>	Balance December 31, <u>1992</u>
Land and Improvements	\$144,829		\$144,829
Buildings and Improvements	5,255,262	75,889	5,331,151
Machinery and Equipment:			
Equipment	790,681	-42,772	747,909
Vehicles	<u>125,303</u>	<u>6,556</u>	<u>131,859</u>
	6,316,075	39,673	6,355,748
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>1,777,804</u>	<u>249,460</u>	<u>2,027,264</u>
	\$4,538,271	(\$209,787)	\$4,328,484



# COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Budget Report

### December 31, 1992

Revenue	1992 <u>Budgeted</u>	1992 <u>Actual</u> <u>Unaudited</u>	1993 Proposed Comm.'s <u>Budget</u>	1991/1992 Gunstock Area <u>Actual</u>
Charge for Services				\$3,631,951.00
Commissioners	\$64,253.00	\$204,484.00	\$65,373.00	
Rent	180,100.00	191,016.00	191,000.00	
County Attorney	43,180.00	37,496.00	30,000.00	
Interest	90,000.00	106,379.00	70,000.00	23,826.00
Registry of Deeds	400,000.00	419,313.00	400,000.00	
Sheriff's Dept.	183,792.00	138,428.00	151,013.00	
Dept. of Corrections	50,100.00	115,448.00	108,364.00	
Human Services	82,058.00	122,236.00	109,000.00	
Outside Agencies	174,273.00	174,273.00	161,238.00	
Nursing Home	3,449,338.00	3,641,622.00	3,420,943.00	
Surplus	520,000.00	633,751.00	350,000.00	
Discounts Earned				3,110.00
Miscellaneous	12,000.00	49,938.00		34,586.00
Taxes - City & Towns	7,200,000.00	7,200,000.00	7,500,000.00	
County Subsidy				665,820.00
Total Revenues	12,449,094.00	13,034,384.00	12,556,931.00	4,359,293.00
Cost of Sales				2,189,939.00
Profit from Operations				2,169,354.00
Expenditures:				
Commissioners	\$125,632.00	\$123,995.00	\$118,281.00	
Finance Office	111,450.00	112,422.00	115,889.00	
County Attorney	192,344.00	185,113.00	201,883.00	
Register of Deeds	291,429.00	284,955.00	306,097.00	
Sheriff's Department	794,529.00	761,686.00	805,512.00	
Medical Referee	10,000.00	12,487.00	10,000.00	
Court House Maint.	165,261.00	159,651.00	166,690.00	
Human Services	3,310,289.00	3,186,894.00	3,278,422.00	
Dept. of Corrections	1,416,642.00	1,417,222.00	1,481,615.00	
Gunstock Area	827,436.00	813,135.00	800,000.00	
Outside Agencies	645,004.00	899,440.00	643,879.00	
Debt:				
Principle	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	
Interest	175,660.00	175,660.00	163,185.00	939,253.00
Interest - TAN'S	200,000.00	154,540.00	200,000.00	
Contingency				
Nursing Home	3,908,341.00	3,750,158.00	3,891,633.00	
Capital Outlay	75,077.00	68,291.00	173,845.00	
General				866,958.00
Administrative				865,947.00
Loss of Disposition of Fixed Assets				
Total Expenditures	<u>12,449,094.00</u>	<u>12,305,649.00</u>	<u>12,556,931.00</u>	<u>2,672,158.00</u>
Surplus (deficit)		728,735.00		-502,804.00

COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Enterprise Funds - Property, Plant and Equipment

	Nursing Home Fund <u>December 31</u>	Gunstock Commission Fund <u>April 30</u>	<u>Total</u>
Land Improvements			
Roads & Parking Areas	\$44,811	\$2,247,801	\$2,292,612
Buildings & Improvements	1,369,609	3,107,909	4,477,518
Machinery & Equipment	<u>415,787</u>	<u>9,746,194</u>	<u>10,161,981</u>
	1,830,207	15,101,904	16,932,111
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>1,032,791</u>	<u>4,983,679</u>	<u>6,016,470</u>
	\$797,416	\$10,118,225	\$10,915,641

## COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Long - Term Debt

	General Long - Term Obligations <u>December 31, 1992</u>	Gunstock Area Commission <u>April 30, 1992</u>
Long - Term Obligations - Beginning of Period	\$3,651,887.00	\$9,529,075.00
Debt Issued		395,000.00
Debt Retired	-200,000.00	-501,322.00
Change in Accrued Sick Leave	<u>68,795.00</u> \$3,122,682.00	<u>\$10,429,397.00</u>

# Report of the Registry of Deeds

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

Another year has sped by and despite the economic climate, 15,742 documents were recorded in the Registry, showing an increase of 11% over that of 1991. The staff in the Deeds office managed to keep abreast with the increased work load as well as adding an entirely new system to our every day procedures. We began storing documents on Optical Disk, with the long range plan being the elimination of storing documents in deed books.

I cannot speak highly enough about my staff. The way in which they received this new technology and accepted the additional work load was remarkable. In a 9 month period, they scanned 68,000 pages and stored them on Optical Disk. No other Registry in the State has proceeded with such speed and once again we have become an example for others.

Another new addition to the Deeds office in 1992 was the installation of a fax machine. The news was very well received by the law firms statewide and as a result, has generated \$1,656.00 in revenue in 8 short months. We have found that as every month goes by, our revenue from faxing increases.

The revenue for 1992 was \$420,440.27 reflecting an increase of 4% over that of the previous year. The Registry collected \$1,406,527.00 in transfer tax for the State of New Hampshire and our 4% commission amounted to \$56,181.44. This represents a 13% decline in transfers of real estate from the previous year. Revenue derived from copy requests is also up by 10% showing a total of \$58,862.40.

The following is a breakdown of document activity for each City/Town in Belknap County for 1992:

	Alton	1,318
	Barnstead	782
	Belmont	1,169
*	Belknap	2,922
*	Carroll	12
	Center Harbor	280
	Gilford	1,923
	Gilmanton	754
*	Grafton	11
*	Hillsborough	43
	Laconia	3,192



	Meredith	1,516
*	Merrimack	33
	New Hampton	446
*	Rockingham	10
	Sanbornton	650
*	Strafford	7
*	Sullivan	2
	Tilton	<u>672</u>

Total documents recorded 15,742

\* Represents writs of attachment recorded from out of County.

Many thanks to the County Commissioners and members of the Delegation for their continued support and encouragement.

A special Thank You to my very devoted staff, who continually astound me with the tremendous amount of pride they take in their daily work.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel M. Normandin  
*Register of Deeds*

## Report of the Belknap County Nursing Home

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

I hereby submit the report of the Belknap County Nursing Home for 1992.

During the year, 17 residents expired, 4 were discharged, and 21 admitted. The facility continues to operate at capacity, with a significant waiting list. With a 1992 occupancy rate which again exceeded 99%, the facility continues to generate utilization figures which are well above New Hampshire averages.

The average age of our residents continues to climb, and presently stands at 81. There are 32 residents over the age of 85, with the oldest being 109. The census includes a typical mix of 64 Females and 21 males. Our youngest resident is 43, and there are nine residents under the age of 65, indicating that there is a younger population which also requires our services. The median length of stay in the facility is 4 years.

The staff has demonstrated remarkable dedication and flexibility not only in meeting the demands placed on them by regulatory pressures, but also the dramatically increasing medical demands of our residents. Given the efforts of the past decade to delay entry into skilled nursing facilities by caring for individuals at home, and the level of care required in order to meet the Medicaid requirements, we find that when our residents do enter the facility their needs are far greater, and as a result their care more demanding and costly.

The facility continues to support staff in all departments who seek to upgrade their skills through further education. The Nursing Department in particular have benefited from individuals who have progressed from Certified Nurses Aides, to Licensed Practical Nurses, to Registered Nurses. These programs are not only cost effective for the County, but also aid in building a strong core of staff who have a strong bond within the facility.

The Home serves as a training site for a number of educational programs. While these provide a valuable service to the community, the facility benefits from the opportunity to get to know prospective employees. The residents also enjoy the attention they receive from these students.

Strong support from the community continues to be a major factor in the high standards of care provided in the Home. Staff and residents are appreciative of the efforts of all those who have taken an interest, and play a significant role in the lives of our residents.

A major accomplishment has been the significant reduction in the portion of the Nursing Home's operating expense which is born by the County Property Taxpayer. Prior to 1991, approximately 42% of the annual operating expense was covered by the County Tax which is collected from the property owners by the individual towns. Changes in the fiscal operation of the facility have decreased the percentage over 10%. Given an operating budget in the \$4,000,000 range, the savings are certainly significant. During the fall, the State Medicaid office conducted a two week audit of the Facility's financial operation which validated the changes which have been made, and resulted in numerous positive comments on the manner in which the County operates the Home.

With the close of the year came the end to "Cousin" Brad Sprague's tenure as a County Commissioner. As most are aware, the County Home was an area of special interest to Brad. What many have not had the privilege of seeing, is the very close and special relationship which he enjoyed with the staff and residents. A frequent visitor to the facility, Brad often "disappeared" to check on a resident, or express his appreciation to staff for their efforts. He seldom missed Thanksgiving or Christmas visits to the Home. While Brad's active support of the facility as a Commissioner will certainly be missed, all at the Home look forward to maintaining a close relationship with this very special individual.

Finally, I would like to once again take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to the residents, families, staff, other County Departments, the Commissioners, and Delegation for their continue assistance and support. The opportunity to work with such an outstanding group of individuals is indeed a privilege.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Chase, NHA  
*Administrator*

## Department of Corrections

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

The year 1992 saw a slight reduction in the inmate population. Over the course of the year 1,325 persons were detained either in a pretrial or sentence status. One interesting note, however, was that there was a noticeable increase in the more violent crimes. For example, murder, negligent homicide, 1st Degree Assault, 2nd Degree Assault and robbery were all up over 1991.

Our "Vehicle Reconditioning Program" which utilizes inmate labor to recondition state and municipally owned vehicles, continues to be a big success with state and local authorities. As a result of the program, 480 vehicles were reconditioned saving the state and local municipalities over \$40,800.00.

The anticipated income for 1992 was \$50,100.00. This is income derived from the detention of inmates from the federal government (Immigration Service, Border Patrol and US. Marshal Service), Work Release room and board deductions, Jail Industry Income, inmate collect telephone system and miscellaneous income. The actual income for the year was \$111,906.00 which reflects a 120% increase.

During April we were one of three county correctional systems, nation wide, chosen by the US. Department of Education to participate in a T.I.E. program (Training, Industry and Education). The program was developed in conjunction with our "Jail Industry Program" to teach inmates real life skills such as values, decision making, communication, money management and personal assessment. The purpose of the program is to give inmates skills that most of us take for granted. The skills learned should help them upon release to enter society with the incentive to make a positive contribution and break the cycle of criminal activity.

Belknap County has been awarded \$68, 000.00 in grant money to fund the T.I.E. program. To date, three professional program people have been hired to operate the program and three computers have been purchased, along with the PLATO 2000 education software package to facilitate the educational program, i.e., GED basic literacy, etc. The program has been funded for 18 months with the possibility of additional funding by the Bureau of Justice Assistance to extend beyond the 18 month period.

The Belknap County Department of Corrections continues to be one of the most progressive correctional agencies in the state as well as being recognized for our accomplishments over the past few years in the Jail Industry Program. Much of the success can be directly attributed to a dedicated, professional and caring staff.



I wish to thank you as Commissioners and the Belknap County Legislative Delegation for your assistance, support and cooperation during 1992.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter R. Newcomb  
*Superintendent*

## Report of the County Attorney

To the Honorable Belknap County Delegation:

The past year has been one of changes in the Office of the County Attorney. The major change occurred on December 16, 1992 when County Attorney Edward Fitzgerald was sworn in as an associate Justice of the Superior Court. His service to Belknap County was exceptional and much appreciated. Although he will be missed, we wish Judge Fitzgerald best wishes and good luck in his new career.

As can be seen from Appendix A, the total number of felony criminal cases decreased slightly this year, from 335 to 311. While a decrease is always welcome, it is bothersome to see the distribution of offenses. While Burglaries and Thefts are down, Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault cases have increased from 19 to 52 cases and First Degree Assaults increased by 3 cases, from 6 to 9. Thus, while the overall numbers are down, the total number of violent crimes has increased. In addition, the Thefts that are now coming into the office are the product of white collar crimes which involve a great deal of review and preparation. The sophistication of these offenses is increasing daily making detection and prosecution more difficult.

Besides the felony cases handled by the office, there have, of course, been misdemeanor appeals from the district court which were prosecuted.

The office also conducted two Grand Jury investigations; is presently investigating an incident from Rockingham County, at the request of the Attorney General; handled a transfer case from Carroll County, due to a conflict of interest; and prosecuted a juvenile petition for Negligent Homicide for the Town of Barnstead.

Out-of-state child support petitions were filed by this office for children in our county in other states and the office represented out-of-state children in actions for support. Thanks to your help, the office will not handle these cases after January 1, 1994. Legislation was passed this year transferring these cases to the Office of Child Support Enforcement, allowing the children to be represented by an agency that has the expertise to better serve the needs of the children and allowing us to concentrate on criminal prosecution.

The position of victim-witness coordinator was established and filled by Barbara Belmont. Since Ms. Belmont has become a member of this office, she has proven to be indispensable. The victims of crimes are better prepared to testify in court and witnesses are kept informed of court dates and the progress of cases. Through her, the Victim Bill of Rights, which you made law, is being put into effect. In addition, she has brought money into the county by obtaining a grant and funding that

is available from the State. Besides the grant that is reimbursing the county in full at this time for her position and all start-up expenses, she has also obtained a \$25,000 grant from the State to provide training for police officers and assist this office in the prosecution of child abuse cases. By obtaining this money, Ms.Belmont can extend services in training to the local police departments at a time when budgets are being cut. Further, she has been able to obtain \$31,887.46 in compensation for victims and \$1,421.88 in reimbursement for witness expenses.

The office has also brought in \$1,569.81 in forfeiture money from a felony gambling case that was prosecuted.

Finally, the office is continuing to advise local police departments concerning legal issues. The complexity of such issues has resulted in the departments relying more on the office for advice. This office has also provided legal opinions and advice to the Commissioners and Delegation and has negotiated labor contracts between county employees and the county.

In summary, the overall workload of the Office of the County Attorney has increased substantially. So far, the personnel has been able to provide the same professional and competent service it has in the past. With the proper equipment to assist us in our work, we should be able to continue to provide the service the citizens of Belknap County deserve and have come to expect.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana G. Bolander  
*Acting Belknap County Attorney*

Appendix "A"

Accomplice to Burglary .....	4
Accomplice to Receiving Stolen Property .....	1
Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault .....	52
Armed Career Criminal .....	3
Arson .....	2
Att. Agg. Felonious Sexual Assault .....	2
Attempted First Degree Assault .....	1
Attempted Obtng. Drugs Forged Prescription .....	2
Bail Jumping .....	1
Burglary .....	57
Conspiracy to Commit Arson .....	2
Conspiracy to Commit Burglary .....	53
Conspiracy to Commit First Degree Assault .....	2
Conspiracy to Commit Theft .....	2
Escape .....	7
Felon in Possession of Firearm .....	4
Felonious Sexual Assault .....	5
First Degree Assault .....	6
Forgery .....	26
Fraudulent use of Credit Card .....	1
Issuing Bad Checks .....	1
Manufacture of Controlled Drug .....	1
Negligent Homicide .....	2
Obtaining Drugs by Forged Prescription .....	14
Operating While Habitual Offender .....	22
Perjury .....	2
Possession Controlled Drug .....	1
Possession Controlled Drug / Intent Sell .....	1
Possession Narcotic Drug .....	3
Possession Narcotic / Intent to Sell .....	1
Receiving Stolen Property .....	2
Robbery .....	3
Second Degree Assault .....	6
Theft by Deception .....	5
Theft by Unauthorized Taking .....	7
Welfare Fraud .....	2
Witness Tampering .....	5
 TOTAL .....	 311



## Report of the Human Services Department

To the Honorable Belknap County Commissioners:

The following reports are submitted for the Belknap County Human Services Department for the year 1992, detailing by Town/City the number of clients served and the dollars expended in state mandated programs serving our youth, disabled and elderly residents.

### OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Alton	3	1,549.00
Barnstead	4	2,034.00
Belmont	11	5,617.00
Centre Harbor	0	- 0 -
Gilford	4	2,034.00
Gilmanton	5	2,517.00
Laconia	54	27,502.00
Meredith	3	1,549.00
New Hampton	0	- 0 -
Sanbornton	0	- 0 -
Tilton	11	5,617.00
TOTAL	95	\$48,419.00

### AID TO THE PERMANENTLY & TOTALLY DISABLED

Alton	26	23,647.00
Barnstead	6	5,346.00
Belmont	12	10,898.00
Centre Harbor	0	- 0 -
Gilford	9	8,225.00
Gilmanton	3	2,673.00
Laconia	119	108,363.00
Meredith	16	14,599.00
New Hampton	6	5,346.00
Sanbornton	4	3,701.00
Tilton	25	22,824.00
TOTAL	226	\$205,622.00

### INTERMEDIATE NURSING CARE

Alton	23	150,346.00
Barnstead	13	84,702.00
Belmont	28	182,109.00
Centre Harbor	6	38,116.00
Gilford	23	150,346.00

Gilmanton	4	25,411.00
Laconia	138	899,957.00
Meredith	49	319,749.00
New Hampton	5	31,763.00
Sanbornton	12	78,349.00
Tilton	24	156,698.00
TOTAL	325	\$2,117,546.00

#### CARE OF CHILDREN

Alton	22	21,976.00
Barnstead	14	19,141.00
Belmont	57	63,093.00
Centre Harbor	1	66.00
Gilford	19	26,230.00
Gilmanton	13	22,685.00
Laconia	187	442,292.00
Meredith	20	43,243.00
New Hampton	6	4,253.00
Sanbornton	3	11,343.00
Tilton	31	54,586.00
TOTAL	373	\$708,908.00

The County is authorized to collect, on the behalf of the Division of Children & Youth Services, reimbursement from parents or others chargeable by law for a child's support and necessities. The County collected \$25,628.00 in reimbursements during 1992, which was forwarded to the State and they in turn will credit the County for 40%.

Incentive funds received this year from the Division of Children & Youth Services to maintain local programs serving our youth, were awarded to the following:

Youth Services Bureau: Court Diversion Program & the Youth Companion Program

Youth Assistance Program of Northfield, Tilton & Sanbornton

Lakes Region Community Health Agency: First Time Parents

Lakes Region Family Service: Outreach Prevention Program & the Meditation Program

UPSTREAM - Parenting Education Program

Appalachian Mountain Teen Project - Outdoor Education Program

I wish to thank you, as Commissioners and the Belknap County Delegation, for the approval of a part-time position in my department this past year. Your support and cooperation is very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol N. Schonfeld  
*Human Services Administrator*

## **Belknap County Sheriff's Department 1992 County Report**

As I complete my first term as Sheriff of Belknap County, the Belknap County Sheriff's Department continues to be a very active multijurisdictional law enforcement agency. As the following statistics show, 1992 was another very busy year in Belknap County.

### **Criminal Investigations**

Our records indicate that we have conducted 33 drug investigations resulting in \$66,500.00 in seizures of illegal drugs, real estate, automobiles, and cash through November 30, 1992.

There were a total of 515 adult criminal investigations conducted, 211 juvenile cases investigated, and 58 polygraph examinations were conducted.

### **Drug Forfeitures and Grants**

As of Dec 31, 1992, the Department has received more than \$9,350.00 in forfeiture funds from property that was seized during drug raids and then forfeited. Of that amount, \$4,350.00 has been shared with the town of New Hampton.

Because we are a multijurisdictional agency, the Sheriff's Department has been able to apply for and receive grant monies to fight the war on drugs. The Department's third drug grant was completed July 31, 1992, after a very successful year on attacking drugs within Belknap County. At the end of this grant, the Department applied for and received a fourth grant which took effect August 1, 1992, and it is the grant we are working under at this time. We received \$17,950.00 in federal funds from the Drug Control and Systems Improvement Act of 1988, with a 25% match of \$5,984.00, which represented the salaries of the deputies while instructing DARE. This grant application includes monies to improve the equipment that is needed to successfully fight the war on drugs. It is our hope to continue the success of these grants in identifying and targeting repeat offenders, as well as enhance the DARE program.

### **DARE**

In 1992, our department conducted Drug Abuse Resistance Education to Alton Public Schools, Winnisquam Public Schools, and Sant Bani School in Sanbornton. Over 300 students were taught the 17 week elementary program, and a DARE program was instituted for high



school students in the Alton Public School. The high school program is a 12 week program aimed at reducing substance abuse and anger management with regard to violent behavior. The DARE program is sponsored by local groups and local fundraising events. We would like to thank all for their continued assistance and contributions that enable us to continue to provide this valuable service.

### **Arrests**

As of Dec 31, 1992, Sheriff's Deputies have made 217 arrests on both criminal and civil warrants issued by the District and Superior Courts. In addition, 181 warrants were recalled by the courts after members of the Sheriff's Department contacted the individuals who were wanted on civil bench warrants.

### **Prisoner Transports**

The deputies have conducted 1,240 transports to and from jails all over the state, State Prison, New Hampshire State Hospital, local and out-of-town doctors and hospitals, motor vehicle hearings, as well as funerals, not to mention the transportation of juveniles to halfway houses, Youth Development Center, and secure facilities within and out of the State.

### **Civil**

Deputies served 3,885 writs in towns throughout Belknap County, producing \$76,875.00 in revenue.

We processed 498 civil and criminal warrants.

### **Communications**

The Belknap County Sheriff's Department's Communication Center remains one of the most active centers in New Hampshire. In 1992, we received 121,049 telephone calls and handled approximately 135,093 radio transmissions. We also received 81,765 messages over our Spots computer, which would include motor vehicle listings, license checks, motor vehicle record checks, criminal record checks, wanted person inquiries, etc.

Dispatch services were supplied to nine towns for a cost equaling 24% of what it would cost for those towns to totally handle their own communications on an individual basis.

### **Court Security**

Our court security officers manned the walk-through metal detector on a full-time basis, which resulted in 5 firearms, 502 knives, 3 razors, 14 kubatons, 13 mace, 15 scissors, and 40 other assorted items being taken from individuals entering the Belknap County Superior Court.

As Sheriff, I would like to personally thank the Belknap County Commissioners, the Delegation members, and each and every police department in the county for their continued cooperation and support of the Belknap County Sheriff's Department.

Respectfully,

Stephen G. Hodges  
*Sheriff*

## 1992 Gunstock County Report

The past year was a period of growth for Gunstock on all fronts from skiing to special events, corporate functions, promotional partnerships and the development of new profit centers.

In spite of having a nearly snowless winter, Gunstock enjoyed its second best season in its 54 year history and maintained its number three status in New Hampshire in terms of generating skier visits. That performance was due to a very aggressive snowmaking posture, exceptional snow grooming, an aggressive marketing campaign and a strong guest services effort. Gunstock's money back guarantee, the only one in the ski industry helped to establish Gunstock as a value leader and enhanced the perception of product value.

Cutting operational costs by \$200,000 was a major element in trimming expenses and setting the stage for profitability.

Special events during the winter that generated significant regional publicity were the US National Nordic Combined Championships, the eastern debut of the new Snow Runner ( a boot with the ski built-in) that generated publicity far and wide the story was picked up by the Associated Press as well as television coverage.

During the course of the winter Gunstock gave over 12,000 ski lessons to area school children. An outreach program in which staffers visited area schools with free cross country equipment and lessons were also popular.

Summer operations also showed significant gains with over 60,000 attending a schedule of events ranging from the NH Crafts Festival, the Annual Oktoberfest and an all new Country Jamboree which was free to Belknap County residents. Gunstock's Corporate Outings Center realized a 130% increase in function sales. The Gunstock Campground bucked a regional decline in tourism visits and showed a 5% increase in revenues. This is in stark contrast to state parks which experienced a 16% decrease in visits.

The development of a new profit center at Gunstock, Night Skiing, was enhanced by major assistance from the 368th Combat Engineering Battalion which held their summer encampment at Gunstock. Donating both machinery and manpower valued at over \$80,000 the 368th was a major asset in the installation of a slopeside lighting system, the paving of the base loop road and many other projects.

Early interest and revenues from the night skiing operation have been significantly above projections.

## 1992 Belknap County Conservation District Program Highlights

**COMMUNITY PLANNING:** A workshop was given on several types of soil mapping, wetland delineation, changes in laws at the federal and state, level, septic regulation, and methods for mitigating wetlands impacts in conjunction with the Realtors Land Institute. Summaries of several workshops about wetlands and related laws were distributed as supplements to newsletters. A workshop was given on the *NH Method for the Comparative Evaluation of Inland Wetlands* manual for local Planning Boards and Conservation Commission members in conjunction with NH Audubon. BCCD announced the new consultant engineer, Ed Minnick, who is available to provide assistance to towns by evaluating development projects for accuracy and environmental soundness. BCCD assisted USDA Soil Conservation Service (SCS) with two gravel pits reclamation workshops. The Program Coordinator (PC) or the SCS District Conservationist (DC) met with several planning boards to explain high intensity soil mapping and discuss the SCS soil mapping updates. A grant was approved by the US Federal Emergency Management Admin. (FEMA) to provide training and materials to town board members and training to the public on the new *Stormwater Management and Erosion and Sediment Control Design Handbook for Urban and Developing Areas in NH*.

**AGRICULTURE:** The PC attended several meetings to explain Soil Potential Index (SPI) ratings for use in determining values of open land in Current Use for Tax determinations. Bob and Mary Harrington of Laconia, BCCD nominees, were chosen as one of the three national winners of the "Good Earth" award which honors farmers who are models of land stewardship. Garden space was provided at the BCCD's leased land at the Opechee Forest for local residents. Volunteers repaired the road which accesses the land. BCCD hosted the NH Assoc. of Cons. Dist. (NHACD) Summer Meeting with a theme of Agriculture and Wetlands.

**CONSERVATION EDUCATION:** Rusty Lange is the 1992 BCCD Conservation Education Teacher of the Year. She will attend Shelburne Farm's Cultivating Science in the Classroom next summer and has received copies of Grow-Lab materials. Materials were provided for Waste Management of NH-Laconia's Earth Day Program. The District's fourth Annual Conservation Field Day was held at Gunstock this fall for 250 middle school earth science students. 3000 free evergreen seedlings were distributed to students from grades 2-12. Displays were set up and information distributed at the Farm and Forest Expo, the 4-H County Fair, the Yard and Garden Fair at the Belknap Mall and a display was loaned for use at an Earth Day Program in Tilton. The PC chaired



the NHACD committee that began the Envirothon in NH. It is a National Conservation District educational and competition program for high school students which combines team work and critical thinking skills.

**DISTRICT OPERATIONS:** Steve and Jean Surowiec of Sanbornton are the BCCD Cooperators of the Year. They have been recognized for their increased productivity and use of recommended practices in their transition from a dairy to an orchard and hay operation. BCCD Supervisors chaired the NHACD Education and Water Quality Committees. During Soil and Water Stewardship Week materials were distributed to the county and school libraries. The Second Annual Tree and Shrub Sale was held supplying the evergreen, fruit tree and wildlife shrub seedlings. A planting workshop was held just before they were delivered with the assistance of Belknap County UNH Cooperative Extension. Volunteers assisted at the gardens, at events and in the office. Workshops the PC attended were: Wetlands Evaluation, Wetlands Methods Update and Mitigation, Current Use and SPI, NH Volunteerism Annual Conference, Executive and Legislative Operations, Federal, State & Local Perspectives, National Envirothon & District Idea Exchange, Computer Training, NH Lakes Assn. meetings and Introduction to Total Quality Management.

**WATER QUALITY:** A pond clinic was offered which included information on installation and maintenance of dry hydrants. BCCD's consultant biologist was made available to landowners for pond reviews. The PC was asked to do a water quality program at Stonedam Island. BCCD worked on the development of a grant application with North Country Resource Conservation and Development Area, Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC), and NH Dept. of Environmental Services. A Water Quality Display was developed and used at the Farm & Forest Expo. BCCD worked with SCS to present an introductory sediment and erosion control workshop in Alton, Managing Water Quality (held at an LRPC meeting), and a FEMA funded stormwater control session for road agents and others. Many of the practices used to prevent stormwater control also provided protection to water quality. Several supervisors served on State of NH committees on water quality and use.

**The BCCD Board of Supervisors feel that the accomplishments of this past year were made possible through the generous support of many individuals, Belknap County, and the Soil Conservation Service.**

All BCCD and SCS programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, or handicap.

## **Report of Belknap County Cooperative Extension**

Cooperative Extension is the educational outreach arm of the University of NH in Belknap County. Extension offers programs and assistance to individuals, families, businesses and communities. The two major program areas are Natural Resources and Family, Community and Youth. Program emphasis in Natural Resources includes: water quality, land use management, community trees and forests, forest stewardship, integrated pest management, agricultural production, farm and forest business management and other natural resource issues important to Belknap County residents. In the Family, Community Youth area, programs focus on: health and nutrition, food safety and quality, family finances, parenting and child care, needs of low income families, 4-H and Youth Development, Leadership Development, public policy and volunteerism.

Enrollment in 4-H was as follows: 316 in 4-H clubs and groups, 399 in Special Interest Programs, 1479 school programs for a total of 2194 youth. Over 125 adults volunteer for 4-H in Belknap County and 57 teens serve as junior leaders.

Youth enrollment in over 3600 projects in animal, plant and mechanical science, natural resources, citizenship and community service, leisure and cultural education, health and safety, food and nutrition, family resources and communication arts. 46 youth 5-7 years old enrolled in new Cloverbud Project.

The County 4-H Foundation raised \$4,000 and awarded campership totaling \$2,220 to 51 county 4-H members who attended NH 4-H Camps and over \$700 in scholarships to 15 4-H teens attending NH Teen Conference at UNH.

20 youth completed a 6-week Baby-sitting Course. 60 Pleasant St. School students completed the 6-week "Safe at Home" program. 4-H assisted schools in the county with Stream Study Kits, Embryology projects, Bicycle Safety courses and International programs.

Over 4,000 people attended the Belknap County 4-H Fair. The Fair Association raised over \$12,000 to support the Fair. Activities were held to promote several 4-H projects in foods, clothing, natural resources and communication arts.

In the **Agricultural Resources Program** keeping up with research to respond knowledgeably to questions and requests from citizens on fruit, vegetable, ornamental, turf, greenhouse crop, forage crop and livestock problems is a pleasure and challenge. Many contacts this past year have been with commercial apple and blueberry growers and with

forage growers, often on a one-to-one basis. Overall there were about 700 district grower contacts. There is increasing interest in part time farming -- growing some sort of cash crop such as high bush blueberries, strawberries and specialty vegetables in addition to off-farm employment.

There were many requests to identify and make recommendations for insect and disease problems. Because of the cool wet growing season disease problems were a real concern to commercial growers and homeowners alike.

Soil testing is a basic component in providing assistance to growers. 198 Commercial recommendations were made, an increase over 146 the previous year. Responded to about 850 calls from homeowners on home and garden issues. In addition to providing expertise in disease and management problems focusing on gardens, trees and shrubs, and lawns: homeowners are submitting numerous soil tests and are becoming increasingly aware of fertilizer and pesticide issues concerning water quality. Part of this year's work has been to help educate people in reducing fertilizer and pesticide use, to recommend environmentally compatible alternatives, and, if alternatives do not exist, to assist in using these materials wisely and responsively. Due to the growth in the past few years and residential property owners, there is an ever-increasing demand for information on gardening, home grounds and landscaping.

In the **Family Community Development** area, Cooperative Extension helped over 5,780 contacts to "*put knowledge and research to work*" to meet the following critical needs in their lives: better manage debt and money; improve nutrition and health; and, enhance parenting and coping skills. In addition to direct clientele, it is estimated that 30,000 were reached through our column in The Citizen and the Monthly Consumer program on WEMJ. To better manage debt and money, 332 individuals and families gained information and skills to improve their financial stability and 198 people requested publications dealing with developing a spending/savings plan or debt management. To enhance parenting and coping skills, 575 participants gained knowledge and skills needed to be more effective parents and child care providers; 98 adults increased their knowledge and skills needed to care and cope with aging parents, spouses or relatives; 202 parents attended one or more UPSTREAM parenting seminars and workshops (363 total head count); 46 mediators in NH gained information and skills to more effectively work in stepfamilies. To improve nutrition and health 293 youth and adults increased their nutrition, and made changes to achieve and maintain optimum weight, and reduce health problems; 1,925 people gained information on safe food practices.



The County Forestry Program provided assistance to 2,024 people, with county-wide participation. Assistance includes information, education, technical assistance and advice on all aspects of forestry. The following are program highlights:

- 1,146 people attended 18 group presentations on forestry: Tree Farm, First Aid for Loggers, Current Use Assessment.
- 878 individuals received assistance by telephone, office visit, or field visit; including 58 forestry requests from town and county officials.
- 102 woodlands were examined with landowners on 5,522 acres of forest land.
- 33 owners developed forest stewardship plans on 3,013 acres.
- 29 landowners participated in federal cost-share programs (\$24,190).
- Gunstock Recreation Area developed a forest management on 466 acres, with 75% of the cost covered by federal cost share money.
- 142 landowners completed 1,198 acres of forestry work.
- 44 landowners conducted controlled timber sales with private foresters.
- 185 people assisted with forest product marketing information and timber sales procedures.
- 51 landowners (4,883 acres) referred to private foresters.
- 87 people were assisted with insect, disease, and tree care problems.
- 450 people attended 4 information sessions the state's revised current use law.
- 134 landowners and town officials received individual follow-up assistance on current use.
- Meredith, Sanbornton, and Gilford implemented forestry practices on town lands.
- Gilford dedicated its Kimball Wildlife Forest with UNH President Dale Nitzschke.

**Belknap County Extension Staff**

Sumner Dole, Forest Resources

Ralph Winslow, Agricultural Resources

Frances Johnson, EFNEP

Ginny Clifford, 4-H & Youth Development

Barbara Hunter, Family Development



## **Report of the Belknap County Economic Development Council, Inc.**

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

With the region feeling the impact of the recession that gripped New Hampshire, your office and the County Delegation saw the need to address the issues and work directly with the grassroots initiatives which could be strengthened by a commitment of both public dollars and leadership. As a result, the 1992 Economic Development Council established to serve the needs of our municipalities and businesses became a reality.

This not-for-profit corporation is composed of fifty incorporators who represent the municipalities, economic sectors and residents the Council has been established to serve. The Council's policy and decision-making rests with an elected Board of thirteen directors. Jane Kilcoyne during her tenure as President of the New Hampshire Technical College in Laconia provided the organizational leadership. Following her transfer, Representative Carl Johnson assumed the chair. The daily operation and delivery of services is the responsibility of an executive director.

In July, Eliza Leadbeater was appointed executive director. Since assuming the position, the executive director has been responsible for establishing the offices of the Council and delivering the services as defined by the Board of Directors. In October, after a series of working sessions, the Board reaffirmed its mission to promote the economic vitality of Belknap County by providing coordination and leadership in facilitating sustainable economic growth and the preservation and creation of quality jobs. The Board and executive director also developed a work plan through 1993 for the implementation and delivery of programs and services.

In addition to the organizational activities during the last six months, the energies of the Council have been focused on fostering partnerships which will access opportunities for economic vitality. A major activity has been working with existing companies on retention and also facilitating programs that can strengthen their efforts to expand. As indicated in our regular reports to the Commissioners, the Council has played a significant role in retaining many local jobs and helped several existing and new firms access expansion opportunities.

The Economic Development Council is only in its infancy, but in this brief period has received impressive support in energies and funding from both the public and private sectors. We welcome your renewed commitment of support in 1993 and reaffirm ours to access opportunities

that strengthen the economic vitality of Belknap County and enhance the quality of life that our residents cherish.

Respectfully,

Carl Johnson, *Chair*

Eliza Leadbeater, *Executive Director*

## **Report of the Lakes Region Mental Health Center (GENESIS - The Counseling Group)**

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

I hereby submit the report for the Lakes Region Mental Health Center for calendar year 1992.

The County funding was used to provide counseling services to those individuals between the age of 18 and 60 who do not have insurance, and/or the resources to pay for services. It is through the support of the County that these individuals were able to receive the necessary services to alleviate their emotional distress.

During calendar year 1992, 410 residents of Belknap County received 2897 hours of service. Of the 410 persons, 114 had no insurance coverage at all. The remainder of persons served had varying combinations of health insurance coverage, and in many instances still required some financial assistance for services rendered. A large number of persons lack the necessary coverage due to loss of employment, and this condition frequently complicates underlying emotional problems.

Services provided to Belknap County residents included individual, couples and family psychotherapy along with medication monitoring. The approach emphasized in therapy is short-term problem solving. The average number of sessions per individual is between 8-10. This number is consistent with the national trend geared toward limiting treatment objectives to only significant problem areas. Also, the increased awareness of cost consideration has encouraged all parties to be as expeditious as possible in the counseling process.

In addition to the services rendered to the adult outpatient population, the Center also provided substantial service to two county facilities. During the year 86 hours of service were provided to 19 residents of the Belknap County Jail and 219 hours of service were provided to 38 residents of the Belknap County Nursing Home. In consideration of the County grant, there was no charge to County facilities for these services, which have expanded considerably.

During the past year the Lakes Region Mental Health Center has initiated attempts to improve the financial underpinnings of this program. This includes marketing our range of outpatient services. Our marketing plan was initiated by changing the name of our Outpatient Division to *GENESIS -- The Counseling Group*. This new name is the title of the operating division of Lakes Region Mental Health Center. It is not a new corporation and it does not have a separate budget. It is merely a "DBA"

name change which we hope will permit easier access to services by persons who have negative images of what mental health centers might be like. This has no fiscal implications whatsoever for our request for or use of Belknap County funds. To the extent that our marketing campaign is successful and we can reduce the deficit in the outpatient service, we can also decrease our reliance on County funding.

On behalf of the consumers we serve, I wish to extend our thanks to the County Commissioners and members of the Delegation for their support during this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Pisciotta, MSW  
*Executive Director*

JMP:dhl





